

MEDIA RELEASE

Armed Robbery suspects arrested Victim Robbed at Gunpoint for Jewelry

SANTA BARBARA, CA – 12/8/2011

On December 8, 2011 at approximately 1800 hrs, Santa Barbara Police detectives in coordination with Santa Barbara Police SWAT served search and arrest warrants at 1819 De La Vina St. in search of three robbery suspects who were considered armed and dangerous. All three suspects were gang related. The arrests concluded an investigation of an armed robbery that occurred on December 1, 2011.

Due to the possible presence of a small child, the suspects were ordered from the residence by SWAT team members and negotiators. A 2 year old child was carried from the residence by one of the suspects and was safely transported by officers to the home of his grandmother.

The victim knew the suspects for some time and had occasionally lent one of the suspects, Felipe Flores, money. Flores contacted the victim and wished to meet and pay the loan back. In addition, the victim was asked to bring some expensive jewelry that Flores wished to purchase. When the victim arrived at the designated location, Flores was in the company of two additional suspects. After meeting for some time, Flores drew a handgun and told the victim he was being robbed. A second suspect produced a stun gun and threatened the victim.

The victim was forced to give up jewelry and a watch he had in his possession. While the suspects were leaving, they threatened to kill the victim if he called or notified the police. The suspects were later captured on video surveillance attempting to sell the stolen jewelry in Ventura County.

Booked into Santa Barbara County Jail were Felipe Alejandro Flores (18) of Santa Barbara, Alejandro Peralta (18) of Goleta and Gabriel Carbajal (19) of Santa Barbara. All three were charged with 211 PC Robbery, 136 PC Threaten a Witness, 496 PC Possess Stolen Property, and 186.22 PC Crime in Furtherance of a Street Gang. Carbajal was additionally charged with 11350 PC Possession of Cocaine. A fourth suspect, Saul Cruz (22), was arrested on unrelated probation charges. A fifth subject was detained but released at the scene.

A second location in the 5600 block of University Dr, Goleta was also searched for evidence later that same day.

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